AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for producing a gas cushion for supporting a preheated glass sheet, with a chamber connected to a source of compressed gas, the upper wall of which chamber is adapted in its external dimensions to the outline of the glass sheet and has a plurality of apertures for the passage of gas, wherein the apertures are designed as nozzles, which have an entry bore as well as a progressively widening exit hole, and that the upper wall of the chamber has a greater degree of perforation (sum of the nozzle exit areas in relation to the total area of the respective zone) in **[[**its**]]** edge zones of the upper wall than in **[[**its**]]** a central zone of the upper wall which is completely surrounded by the edge zones.

2. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the central zone of the upper wall of the chamber roughly corresponds in the magnitude of its area to the sum of the edge zones.

3. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the ratio of the degree of perforation in the central zone of the upper wall of the chamber to the degree of perforation in the edge zones amounts to approx. 0.5 to 0.9, preferably approx. 0.7 – 0.8.

4. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the upper wall of the chamber has a degree of perforation of at most approx. 0.3, preferably less than 0.25, in its central zone.

5. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the upper wall of the chamber has a greater degree of perforation in the edge zones of its longer sides than in the edge zones of its shorter sides.

6. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the degree of perforation of the upper wall of the chamber diminishes from the feed side for the glass sheet to the side of the wall opposite the feed side.

7. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the entry bore of at least one of the nozzles widens at least once abruptly in the direction of flow.

8. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 7, wherein the entry bore of the nozzles has a first section with a diameter of approx. 2 to 4 mm, preferably of approx. 3 mm, as well as a second section with a diameter of approx. 20 mm, whereby the exit hole follows on from the latter.

9. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein the entry bore of the nozzles has a third section with a diameter of approx. 10 mm between the first and second section.

10. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 9, wherein at least the first, the second and the third section are formed cylindrically, preferably with a coinciding cylinder axis.

11. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the upper wall of the chamber is covered by a thin porous cloth made of heat-resistant material.

12. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 11, wherein the cloth is made of heat-conductive material, preferably of corrosion-resistant steel (stainless steel).

13. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the chamber is made of ceramic material.

14. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 13, wherein the chamber is designed as a one-piece moulding.

15. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the chamber is provided with heating elements.